



SISTER MARTHA MOLOHON, OLVM, died peacefully at Saint Anne's Communities at Victory Noll in Huntington, Indiana, on February 23, 2022.

Sister Martha was born in Curdsville, Kentucky, on September 26, 1924, to Ignatius Loyola Molohon and Mary Matilda Wathen Molohon. She was baptized on September 28, 1924, at Saint Elizabeth's Catholic Church in Curdsville and given the name Martha Ann. She was third of five girls raised on a tobacco farm in northwest Kentucky. She often shared stories about life on their farm and the surrounding area. Three sisters precede Sister Martha in death, Margaret Mattingly, Frances Molohon and Mary Magdalen Kaelin, and one brother, John Robert, who died in infancy. Sister Martha is survived by her sister, Lucy Hines, and her nieces and nephews. Also surviving Sister Martha are her Victory Noll Sisters, with whom she lived in community for almost 80 years.

Sister Martha entered the Congregation of Our Lady of Victory Missionary Sisters on October 27, 1942, at the age of 18. She made first vows on August 5, 1945, and her first mission was in Coachella, California. She would go on to serve in parish Religious Education programs in Missouri, Kentucky, Michigan and Texas.

Twenty-one years of Sister Martha's missionary life were spent in Lubbock, Texas. Lubbock is one of the oldest missions in the congregation's history, beginning in 1928. During all those years, the Sisters provided not only a solid religious education and faith formation, but also the much-needed social welfare support that accompanied their work with those living in poverty. Sister Martha followed in the footsteps of these early pioneering Sisters and worked as the Religious Education Coordinator for St. Joseph's Parish. She was also involved with the summer bible school for teens, parent meetings for the children preparing to receive one of the sacraments, and coordinating religious education at the Lubbock Mental Health School.

In 2002, Sister Martha left Saint Joseph's Parish in Lubbock, and moved to Good Shepherd Parish in Columbia, Kentucky. Not long after she left Saint Joseph's she received an invitation to return to Lubbock to present the first annual Sister Martha Molohon Scholarship, a scholarship given to a deserving graduating senior. Sister was very touched by this recognition from the people of the parish, not only for the honor to her but also as a

recognition of all the Victory Noll Sisters who had ministered in Lubbock for 84 years, from 1928 to 2002.

While in Columbia, Sister Martha learned to play the lap dulcimer. She often brought it to community gatherings at Victory Noll. Several Sisters voiced their disappointment when she left the dulcimer in Kentucky.

Returning to Victory Noll in 2009, Sister Martha served as assistant sacristan for one year. She was always willing to help in any way she could and offered herself in many acts of service. She also delighted the Sisters and later the residents of Saint Anne's Communities with her presence and the songs she played on the harmonica. Often on a summer's afternoon, you could find Sister Martha sitting in the breezeway outside the Saint Joseph Building playing her harmonica or just enjoying being outside listening to the birds and feeling the delightful breeze. She often walked the grounds as well, taking delight in God's creation.

Sister Martha was quiet and always seemed content. She went about her daily tasks with a smile and a slow southern drawl. She was unassuming, loving, gracious and always grateful.

The community gathered on February 28, 2022, to begin the celebration of Sister Martha's life with a vigil service. Her sister Lucy Hines, brother-in-law Tom Hines, and nephew Steve Kaelin joined the Sisters for the celebration of Mass on March 1, 2022. In his homily, Father Dale Bauman talked about the joy that music had been given to Sister Martha and, in return, she gave to others. He reminded us that although she is gone from our midst, the songs she played from her heart will linger as we remember her with fond memories.

We will miss you Martha, our dear sister. Yet we know you are experiencing the joyful reward of a faithful and faith-filled life of service, generosity and music.

With gratitude and blessing,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sr. Ginger Downey O.L.V.M." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sr. Ginger Downey, O.L.V.M